

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3, 7, 9-13 and 18 have been amended. Claim 19 is added. Claim 6 is cancelled. No new matter is added. In light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicants earnestly solicit favorable reconsideration.

Applicants thank the Examiner for courteously extending an interview to Applicants on July 8, 2008. Applicants incorporate the contents of that interview into the following remarks.

On the Merits

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 9-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is directed to a non-statutory subject matter. The claims, as presented, address the Examiner's rejections.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-8 and 14-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Kanade* (US Publ. 2003/0076413).

Independent Claim 1:

Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features formerly of claim 6.

Independent claim 1 requires:

A multi perspective video capture system that acquires video information of a target object from multiple perspectives, comprising:

¹a plurality of cameras that are movable in three dimensions and which are capable of following the movement of the target object,

²wherein video image data of a moving image is synchronized for each frame of the plurality of cameras with camera parameters for each frame of each of the cameras, and association information that mutually associates the video image data of the moving image with the camera parameters for each frame, are acquired;

³wherein the camera parameters include camera attitude information of camera pan and tilt and zoom information; and

⁴video image data of the moving image of the plurality of cameras is calibrated for each frame by using camera parameters that are associated with the association information, and information for analyzing the three-dimensional movement and attitude at each point in time of the target object is continuously obtained.

Regarding the viewing angle and zoom parameters, (element 3 as labeled above, formerly claim 6), *Kanade* discusses the following in paragraphs [0033] - [0037].

In paragraph [0033], *Kanade* discloses that “the mapping module 32 may receive the viewing angle and zoom parameters commands from the control unit 24 and, based thereon, may compute the three-dimensional location of the action of interest in the scene 12.”

In paragraph [0037], *Kanade* discloses that “the mapping module 32 computes the corresponding viewing angles and zoom data for virtual cameras of the other image generators 202n based on the viewing angle and zoom parameter commands from the control 24.”

This shows that *Kanade* uses the viewing angle and zoom parameters to compute the three-dimensional location or the viewing angles and zoom data for virtual cameras.

Furthermore, in paragraph [0045] of *Kanade*, it discloses that:

the pan/tilt cameras 42 may receive the viewing angle and zoom commands based on the output from the control unit 24.

However, *Kanade* does **not** disclose saving each of the pan/tilt or zoom commands and associating each of the positions of said cameras with each individual frame of each camera.

Kanade does **not** disclose that video image data of a moving image is synchronized for each frame of the plurality of cameras with camera parameters for each frame of each of the cameras, as required by claim 1. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claim 1 is presently in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 3:

As independent claim 3 requires a similar feature to the one discussed above regarding independent claim 1, the same arguments and rationale as applied to claim 1 also apply to claim 3.

Independent Claim 14:

As independent claim 14 is similar to independent claim 9, the arguments and rationale presented below regarding claim 9 also apply to claim 14.

Independent Claim 17:

Independent claim 17 requires in part:

acquiring an image in a plurality of rotational positions by panning and/or tilting a camera;

finding correspondence between the focal position of the **camera** and the center position of the axis of rotation from the image;

acquiring the **camera** parameters of the **camera**; and

correcting the **camera** parameters on the basis of the correspondence.

Emphasis added.

In rejecting this claim, the Examiner asserts that “image generators 20 are controlled to keep the point of interest the same size in all of the images captured by the cameras and are also controlled to automatically track moving objects.” However, Applicants respectfully submit that interpreting an “image generator 20” to be a “camera” is not a reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification.

As discussed in paragraph [0041] an image generator 20 appears to be a “virtual camera.” See also FIG. 5 where it discloses a field of vision of a “virtual camera,” as well as two regular cameras. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 17 is presently in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 18:

Independent claim 18 contains similar features to independent claim 1. As such, the arguments and rationale provided above regarding claim 1, also apply to independent claim 18.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 9-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kanade*.

Independent Claim 9:

Regarding the features of independent claim 9, the Examiner points to the time stamps added to the video data as disclosed in *Kanade* in paragraph [0024]. However, regarding the second program encoder which adds a frame count to the video image data to the camera parameters of each camera, this does not appear to be disclosed by *Kanade*. That is, *Kanade* does not disclose a “frame count.” The Examiner cites to paragraphs 24, 28 and 30-42. However, these passages do not seem to disclose appending a frame count to the camera parameter values of each camera.

As discussed earlier, camera parameters could be the pan/tilt or zoom of a camera. *Kanade* does not seem to mention recording this information with a frame of the image.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein presented, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants’ undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

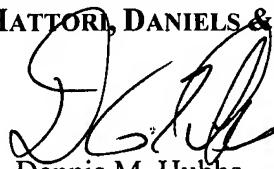
Application No.: 10/540,526
Art Unit: 2622

Response
Attorney Docket No.: 052723

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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